AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

within a network storage management server, automatically discovering a plurality of counters that collect data describing activity of a plurality of performance objects within a host offering networked storage services to a set of clients over a network; wherein the performance objects are physical subsystems of the host;

defining a counter group template for collection of the data describing the activity of the performance objects;

collecting the data for the performance objects from the counters in the counter group template; and

storing the data into [[in]]a file in a storage medium.

2-3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein automatically discovering the counters comprises automatically discovering the performance objects, instances of the performance objects and counters associated with the instance of the performance objects for the host.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising instantiating the selected counters based on a predefined mapping of the performance objects to the counter.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein there are two or more counters and there are two or more performance objects, further comprising storing the collected data for the counters in two or more counter group templates separately for the host.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a user selected one of a plurality of predefined views, each view defining how to organize the data for presentation.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising presenting the data to the user, in accordance with the selected view.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the automatic discovering, and the data collecting are performed in parallel.

10.   (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

within a network storage management server, receiving a user selected counter group template defined for a plurality of counters, the counters collecting data describing activity of a plurality of performance objects within a host offering networked storage services to a set of clients over a network; wherein the performance objects are logical subsystems of the host;

instantiating the at least one counter to collect data from the one or more performance objects;

collecting data for the plurality of counters; and

storing the collected data into a file in a storage medium.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising receiving a user selected predefined view containing a configuration for how the collected data should be presented.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising presenting the collected data based on the predefined view.

13-18. (Canceled).

19.   (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium, having stored thereon a sequence of instructions, which when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform a method comprising:

within a network storage management server, automatically discovering a plurality of counters describing activity of a plurality of performance objects within a host offering networked storage services to a set of clients over a network; wherein the performance objects are physical subsystems of the host;

defining a counter group template including counters for the performance objects;

collecting data for the counters into the counter group template; and

storing the data into a file in a storage medium.

20.   (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 19, wherein automatically discovering the counters comprises automatically discovering the performance objects and the counters associated with the performance objects for the host.

21.   (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium, having stored thereon a sequence of instructions, which when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform a method comprising:

within a network storage management server, receiving a user selected counter group template mapping a plurality of counters to a plurality of performance objects within a host offering networked storage to a set of clients over a network; wherein the performance objects are logical subsystems of the host;

instantiating the plurality of counters to collect data from the performance objects;

collecting data for the plurality of counters; and

storing the collected data into a file in a storage medium.

22.   (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the method further comprises receiving a user selected predefined view containing a configuration for how the collected data should be presented.

23.   (Canceled).

24.   (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the data is collected at a predefined sampling rate.

25.   (Previously Presented) A network storage management server, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory storing instructions which when executed by the processor cause the network storage management server to perform a method comprising:

automatically discovering a plurality of counters describing activity of performance objects within a host offering networked storage to a set of clients over a network; wherein the performance objects are physical subsystems of the host;

defining a counter group template;
collecting data for the counters into the counter group template; and

storing the data into a file in a storage medium.

26.   (Previously Presented) The storage device of claim 25, wherein automatically discovering the counters comprises automatically discovering the performance objects and the counters associated with the performance objects.

27.   (Previously Presented) A network storage management server, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory storing instructions which when executed by the processor, cause the network storage management server to perform a method comprising:

receiving a user selected counter group template defined for a plurality of counters, the counters collecting data describing activity of a plurality of performance

objects within a host offering networked storage to a set of clients in a network; wherein the performance objects are logical subsystems of the host;

instantiating the counters to collect data from the plurality of performance objects;

collecting data for the counters; and

storing the collected data into a file in a storage medium.

28.   (Previously Presented) The storage device of claim 27, wherein the method further comprises receiving a user selected predefined view containing a configuration for how the collected data should be presented.

29.   (Canceled).

30.   (Previously Presented) The storage device of claim 27, wherein the data is collected at a predefined sampling rate.

31.   (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

within a network storage management server, using a plurality of counters to monitor the activity of a plurality of performance objects that are physical subsystems of a host offering networked storage services to a set of clients over a network, the counters producing data describing the activity of the performance objects;

discovering the counters and collecting the data describing the activity of the performance objects into a counter group template defined to collect the activity of the performance objects; and

storing the data into a file in a storage medium.

32.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising creating a counter group

comprising the plurality of counters, a sample period, and a sample buffer size.

33.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, wherein the sampling is in accordance with the sample period.

34.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31, further comprising displaying sample data for the plurality of counters using a view associated with the plurality of counters, the view containing a configuration for presenting the collected data.